

**REMARKS**

By the foregoing amendment, Claims 21, 24, and 30-32 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, Claims 9, 11, 14, 15, 22, 23, 25, and 27-29 have been amended, and new Claims 33-35 added. Thus, Claims 2, 6, 9, 11-20, 22, 23, 25-29, and 33-35 are currently pending in the application.

Examiners Marks and O'Neill are respectfully thanked for taking the time to meet with the Applicant's representative on April 22, 2003. During the interview, the Examiners and Applicant's representative discussed U.S. Patent No. 6,450,500 to Miller and U.S. Patent No. 6,264,200 to Smith, the newly added claims submitted in the Amendment filed April 18, 2003, as well as possible new claims. The Examiners and Applicant's representative agreed that Applicant would submit new independent claims that included various features discussed, in order to further define the invention over the cited prior art. The Examiners indicated that such newly added claims would receive favorable consideration, although further search and consideration would be required.

In the Office Action of November 18, 2002, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-6, 9, 10-13, and 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,632,485 to Woodland, et al. Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the Examiner rejected Claim 14 as being unpatentable over Woodland in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,341,778 to Lee, rejected Claims 7 and 8 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,450,500 to Miller in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,264,200 to Smith, and rejected Claims 19 and 20 as being unpatentable over Woodland in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,270,404 to Sines, et al. It is noted that Claims 1, 3-

5, 7, 8, and 10 have been canceled, and Claims 2, 6, 9, 11, 13, 14 and 15 have been amended. To the extent that any of the rejections remain applicable to the claims currently pending, Applicant hereby traverses the rejections, as follows.

It is submitted that none of Woodland, Lee, Miller, Smith, or Sines, nor the combination thereof, disclose or suggest at least the feature of determining whether the player wins the auxiliary game, if the dealer hand is non-breaking, regardless of whether the player won the Blackjack game, the determination including determining whether the dealer hand has a characteristic selected from a group consisting of at least two of the dealer hand being all red, the dealer hand being all black, the dealer hand totaling an even number, the dealer hand totaling an odd number, the dealer hand consisting of two cards, the dealer hand consisting of three cards, the dealer hand consisting of four cards, the dealer's hand consisting of five cards, the dealer's hand consisting of six cards, and the dealer's hand consisting of seven cards, as claimed in independent Claims 14, 15, 28, 29, and 33-35.

Applicant therefore submits that independent Claims 14, 15, 28, 29, and 33-35 are allowable over the cited prior art. As each of these independent claims is allowable, Applicant submits that Claims 2, 6, 9, 22, 23, and 25-27 which depend from allowable Claim 33, Claims 11-13, which depend from allowable Claim 37, and Claims 16-20, which depend from allowable Claim 15, are each likewise allowable.

For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the claims now pending patentability distinguish the present invention from the cited references. Accordingly,

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reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and an issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: Marked-Up Version of Amended Claims

**MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS**

9. (Amended) The method of Claim [27] 33, wherein the card game is played on a gaming table.

11. (Amended) The method of Claim [32] 37, wherein the representations of the cards are displayed on a terminal.

14. (Amended) A gaming table for at least one player and a dealer to play a card game with at least one deck of cards, the game being played in accordance with standard rules of Blackjack and including an auxiliary game portion, the gaming table comprising:

a table surface; and

at least one player location indicated on the table surface, each of the at least one player location including:

an indicated Blackjack bet location; and

an indicated auxiliary game portion bet location;

wherein the play of the card game includes:

receiving from each of the at least one player a selection of a dealer hand characteristic for the auxiliary game, wherein the dealer hand characteristic is selected from a group consisting of at least two of the dealer hand being all red, the dealer hand being all black, the dealer hand totaling an even number, the dealer hand totaling an odd number, the dealer hand consisting of two cards, the

dealer hand consisting of three cards, the dealer hand consisting of four cards,  
the dealer's hand consisting of five cards, the dealer's hand consisting of six  
cards, and the dealer's hand consisting of seven cards;

receiving a selection to participate in a Blackjack card game from each of the  
at least one player;

optionally receiving a selection to participate in the auxiliary game portion  
from each of the at least one player;

playing the Blackjack card game in accordance with rules of Blackjack, the  
Blackjack round including:

sequentially dealing a first card to each player and a first card to the  
dealer;

sequentially dealing a second card to each player and a second card  
to the dealer;

providing an option to receive additional cards to each of the at least  
one player and the dealer;

dealing additional cards to each of the at least one player and the  
dealer selecting to receive additional cards, in accordance with the rules of  
Blackjack, such that each player has a player Blackjack hand and the  
dealer has a dealer Blackjack hand;

determining whether each player wins the Blackjack round; and  
for each of the at least one player from which a selection to participate in the  
auxiliary game is received:

determining whether the dealer hand is non-breaking; and  
if the dealer hand is non-breaking, determining whether the player wins the auxiliary game, regardless of whether the player won the Blackjack game, determining whether the player wins the auxiliary game including:  
determining whether the dealer hand has the selected dealer hand characteristic.

15. (Amended) A device for a player to play a card game with representations of a deck of cards, the game being played in accordance with standard rules of Blackjack and including an auxiliary game portion, the device comprising:

a display for displaying the card game, including the representations of a standard deck of cards; and

a processor for receiving selections from the player for play of the game, for determining progress of play, and for processing and displaying a graphical user interface;

wherein a selection is received to participate in a Blackjack card game from each of the at least one player;

wherein a selection to participate in the auxiliary game portion is optionally received from each of the at least one player;

wherein a selection of a dealer hand characteristic for the auxiliary game is received from each of the at least one player from which the selection to participate in the auxiliary game portion is received, wherein the dealer hand characteristic is selected from a group consisting of at least two of the dealer hand being all red, the dealer hand being all black,

the dealer hand totaling an even number, the dealer hand totaling an odd number, the dealer hand consisting of two cards, the dealer hand consisting of three cards, the dealer hand consisting of four cards, the dealer's hand consisting of five cards, the dealer's hand consisting of six cards, and the dealer's hand consisting of seven cards;

wherein the Blackjack card game is played in accordance with rules of Blackjack, the Blackjack round including:

sequentially dealing a first card to each player and a first card to the dealer;

sequentially dealing a second card to each player and a second card to the dealer;

providing an option to receive additional cards to each of the at least one player and the dealer;

dealing additional cards to each of the at least one player and the dealer selecting to receive additional cards, in accordance with the rules of Blackjack, such that each player has a player Blackjack hand and the dealer has a dealer Blackjack hand;

determining whether each player wins the Blackjack round; and

wherein the auxiliary game portion results are determined for each of the at least one player from which a selection to participate in the auxiliary game is received, the auxiliary game portion results determination including:

determining whether the dealer hand is non-breaking; and

if the dealer hand is non-breaking, determining whether the player wins

the auxiliary game, regardless of whether the player won the Blackjack game,

determining whether the player wins the auxiliary game including:

determining whether the dealer hand has the selected dealer  
hand characteristic.

22. (Amended) The method of Claim [21] 33, further comprising:

receiving a selection from the player as to whether to participate in the auxiliary  
game.

23. (Amended) The method of Claim [22] 33, further comprising:

if the selection received from the player is to participate in the auxiliary game,  
receiving an auxiliary bet selection from the player [for a dealer hand characteristic].

25. (Amended) The method of Claim [24] 23, wherein the dealer hand  
characteristic has an associated payable return.

27. (Amended) The method of Claim [21] 33, further comprising:

receiving a selection from the player of whether to participate in the Blackjack game.

28. (Amended) A method for playing a Blackjack game with an auxiliary game for a  
player, the method comprising:

receiving a selection from the player as to whether to participate in the auxiliary



game;

dealing a player hand to the player;

dealing a dealer hand;

providing an option to receive additional cards in the player hand and the dealer hand, in accordance with rules of Blackjack;

comparing the player hand to the dealer hand to determine if the player wins the Blackjack game, in accordance with rules of Blackjack; and

if the selection received from the player is to participate in the auxiliary game:

determining whether the dealer hand is non-breaking; and

if the dealer hand is non-breaking, determining whether the player wins the auxiliary game based on a dealer hand characteristic, regardless of whether the player wins the Blackjack game;

wherein the dealer hand characteristic is selected from a group consisting of the dealer hand being all red, the dealer hand being all black, the dealer hand totaling an even number, the dealer hand totaling an odd number, the dealer hand consisting of two cards, the dealer hand consisting of three cards, the dealer hand consisting of four cards, the dealer's hand consisting of five cards, the dealer's hand consisting of six cards, and the dealer's hand consisting of seven cards.

29. (Amended) A method for at least one player and a dealer to play a card game with a plurality of cards, the card game including a Blackjack play portion played in

accordance with conventional rules of Blackjack and an auxiliary game portion, the method comprising:

receiving a selection to participate in the Blackjack play portion from each of the at least one player;

optionally receiving a selection to participate in the auxiliary game portion from each of the at least one player;

for each of the at least one player from which the selection to play the auxiliary game portion is received, receiving a selection of a dealer's hand characteristic, the selected dealer's hand characteristic being selected from a group consisting of at least two selected from a group consisting of all cards being red, all cards being black, value of cards totaling an even number, value of cards totaling an odd number, hand including two cards, hand including three cards, hand including four cards, hand including five cards, hand including six cards, and hand including seven cards;

playing and resolving the Blackjack play portion of the card game, the playing and resolving the Blackjack play portion of the card game including the dealer receiving a dealer hand of at least two cards; and

for each of the at least one player from which the selection to play the auxiliary game portion is received, determining whether the received dealer hand matches the selected dealer's hand characteristic, regardless of the play and resolution of the Blackjack play portion of the card game.